CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) In a message center, a method of providing consistency in Short Message Service (SMS) time stamp formatting for mobile communication devices comprising:

receiving an SMS message <u>originating from a first home time zone and</u> intended for a mobile communication device <u>associated with a second home time zone</u>;

identifying whether the SMS message has timestamp data formatted in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) format or non-UTC format;

converting the timestamp data from the UTC format to a non-UTC time format <u>corresponding to the first home time zone</u> based on identifying that the timestamp data is formatted in the UTC format; and

<u>after converting the timestamp data</u>, causing the SMS message to be sent to the mobile communication device.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of identifying whether the timestamp data of the SMS message is formatted in the UTC format or non-UTC format is based on an identification of a message center which included the timestamp data.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of identifying whether the timestamp data of the SMS message is formatted in UTC or non-UTC format is based on an address of a message center which included the timestamp data.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of identifying whether the timestamp data of the SMS message is formatted in the UTC format or non-UTC format is based on an identification of a service provider of the mobile communication device.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of identifying whether the timestamp data of the SMS message is formatted in the UTC format or non-UTC format is based on an indication in the SMS message.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

failing to convert the timestamp data from the UTC format to a the non-UTC time format corresponding to the first home time zone based on an identification identifying that the SMS message has timestamp data in the non-UTC format; and

converting the timestamp data having the non-UTC format from the first home time zone to the second home time zone.

7.   (Original) A method of providing consistency in Short Message Service (SMS) message timestamp formatting for mobile communication devices, comprising:

providing a removable user identity module for a mobile communication device; and

providing a timestamp mode indicator field in the removable user identify module for indicating a timestamp mode of operation of a home message center as one of a coordinated universal time (UTC) mode and a non-UTC mode.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

providing the mobile communication device for receiving the removable user identity module.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

providing the mobile communication device for receiving the removable user identity module; and

using data in the timestamp mode indicator field for determining whether to convert an SMS message timestamp into non-UTC format.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the removable user identity module comprises a R-UIM.

11.   (Original) A removable user identity module for a mobile communication device, comprising:

memory;

a processor coupled to the memory; and

a timestamp mode indicator field in the memory for indicating a timestamp mode of operation of a home message center as one of a coordinated universal time (UTC) mode and a non-UTC mode.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the removable user identity module comprises an R-UIM.

13.   (Original) A mobile station (MS), comprising:

a removable user identity module (R-UIM) which includes:

memory;

a stored indicator in the memory which is indicative of a timestamp mode of operation of a home message center as one of a coordinated universal time (UTC) mode and a non-UTC mode;

a mobile equipment (ME) which includes:

an R-UIM interface which interfaces with the R-UIM;

a processor;

a visual display coupled to the processor;

the processor being operative to:

receive a Short Message Service (SMS) message having timestamp data;

convert the timestamp data from a Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) format to a non-UTC format when the stored indicator in the R-UIM indicates that the timestamp data has the UTC format; and

cause the visual display to display the timestamp.

14. (Original) The MS of claim 13, wherein the stored indicator comprises a timestamp mode indicator field in the R-UIM.

15. (Original) The MS of claim 13, wherein the stored indicator comprises a service provider identification in the R-UIM.

16. (Original) The MS of claim 13, wherein the processor is further operative to fail to convert the timestamp data to non-UTC format when the stored indicator in the R-UIM indicates that the timestamp data has the non-UTC format.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of providing consistency in Short Message Service (SMS) message timestamp formatting for mobile communication devices, comprising:

receiving, at a first message center, an SMS message ~~having subparameters, at least one of the subparameters including a timestamp~~ originating from a first home time zone and having subparameters which include a timestamp; ~~and~~

~~converting the timestamp of the subparameter from a first timestamp format to a second timestamp format~~

identifying whether the timestamp is formatted in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) format or non-UTC format;

when the timestamp is formatted in UTC format: converting the timestamp from the UTC format to a non-UTC format corresponding to the first home time zone; and

when the timestamp is formatted in non-UTC format: converting the timestamp from the first home time zone to a second home time zone of a mobile communication device which receives the SMS message.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the ~~first timestamp format comprises Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) format and the second timestamp format comprises non-UTC format~~ subparameters include an offset value and the step of converting the timestamp from the UTC format to the non-UTC format of the first home time zone is performed based on the offset value.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the ~~second timestamp format comprises Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) format and the first timestamp format comprises non-UTC format~~ the step of identifying whether the timestamp is formatted in UTC format or non-UTC format is based on examining an address from which the message was received.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the SMS message is sent from a second message center.

21. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the SMS message is sent from a mobile station.

22. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the timestamp comprises an SMS Message Center Timestamp.